

THE BEAUTY WE LIVE WITH:

A Guide to the Parks in Monroe County

*"The beautiful
is not to be
stared at, but to
be lived with."*

— Thomas Babington Macauley



Thomas R. Frey
Monroe County Executive



A CELEBRATION...

Treasures Forever Preserved: 100 Years of Public Parks



A FAST DESCENT

Workers water the toboggan slide at Ellison Park in this 1951 photo. Although the toboggan slide is no longer there, Ellison Park continues to be a popular wintertime park.

The Beauty We Live With



Just a little more than a century ago, most Rochester-area citizens saw little or no need for parks. It's not as surprising as it sounds; surrounded by the natural beauty that was the Genesee Valley, it was undoubtedly hard to imagine a time when only an act of government might preserve that beauty.

But the need for parks, and places for people to play, was quickly becoming apparent. Dr. Blake McKelvey, City Historian Emeritus, explains the movement in *A Growing Legacy*, "Rowing clubs were appearing on the upper and lower Genesee River, properly garbed bathers of both sexes were congregating at Charlotte and Sea Breeze in the summertime, picnickers were flocking to Maple Grove at the northern end of the Lake Avenue horsecar line, and skaters welcomed the clearing of ice above the Court Street dam for their enjoyment in successive cold winters."

And so it is that today we celebrate the 100th year of the Rochester Park System, which began with the dedication of Highland Park. Throughout this century, we have continued to designate parcels of land as "forever wild" —creating parks in towns, parks in villages, parks in the City of Rochester, parks in Monroe County. Because of this natural growth, our combined park systems represent an enormous diversity and richness. Each has something a little different to offer—from the astonishing collection of flowers and trees at Highland Park to the rugged river gorges of Seneca Park to the crash of the waves at Ontario Beach.

Monroe County in 1961 took over operation and maintenance of many of the city's parks, (including Highland Park) in full recognition that the parks were used by all county residents. So we also are sharing this centennial celebration of the parks with the City of Rochester.

This Parks Guide is part of our contribution to the celebration. Unlike other years, we are including *all* of the parks within Monroe County—from the tiniest village parks to the largest state preserves. We hope that you find the guide useful and more importantly, that you enjoy the parks!

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Thomas R. Frey".

Thomas R. Frey
County Executive

Copies of *A Guide to the Parks in Monroe County* are available at the County Executive's Office, the County Office of Communications and Special Events, the County Parks Department, and local libraries.



SWAN BOATS ON TROUT LAKE

The swan boats had their swan song in 1922, but many Rochesterians have fond memories of riding the boats as children. They were propelled by a driver who sat between the swans and pedaled the pontoon boat like a bicycle.

Park Locations

1. Adeline ParkF4

2. Ayrault Road ParkJ7

3. Ballantyne ParkE7

4. Barge Canal AreaD5

5. Barnard ParkF4

6. Bateau Terrace Tot LotG4

7. BeechwoodsI6

8. Black Creek ParkD7

9. Braddock Bay ParkE2

10. Braddocks Bay State Park.....E2

11. Brighton Town ParkG7

12. Bristol Tot LotG4

13. Brown SquareF5

14. California Drive ParkF4

15. Camp Eastman
(opening 88-89)G4

16. Canal Side ParkE5

17. Canawaugus ParkD8

18. Carter ParkE4

19. Carterville Trail Pittsford.....H7

20. Charles Carroll Park aka
Genesee Crossroads ParkG5

21. Churchillville ParkB6

22. Clarkson Town PlaygroundA3

23. Cobbs Hill Reservoir ParkG6

24. Community ParkC7

25. Concrest ParkI6

26. Copper BeachG7

27. Corbett ParkA4

28. Davis ParkE7

29. Densmore ParkG4

30. Dewey/Latta ParkF3

31. Durand-EastmanG4

32. Edgerton ParkF5

33. Edmund-Lyon ParkH6

34. Egypt ParkJ8

35. Ellison ParkH6

36. Empire Boulevard Park.....H5

37. English Road ParkF4

38. Erie Canal Heritage TrailA4

39. Eyer ParkI6

40. Fellows Road ParkJ7

41. Freeman ParkC9

42. Gates Town Hall ParkE5

43. Garnsey Road Arboretum.....I8

44. Gary Beikirch
Veterans ParkE3

45. Genesee Valley ParkF6

46. Genesee Valley Park West.....F6

47. George B. McAvoy ParkG4

48. Grandview ParkE3

49. Greece Canal ParkE5

50. Greenwood ParkI5

51. Hamlin Beach State ParkA1

52. Hamlin Town Hall ParkA2

53. Harris-Whalen ParkI5

54. Harry Allen ParkF10

55. Harvester ParkA4

56. Highland ParkG6

57. Hopkins ParkH8

58. Hubbard ParkD6

59. Irondequoit Bay
Marine ParkH4

60. Irondequoit Bay Park EastH5
61. Irondequoit Bay Park WestH5

62. Irondequoit Creek TrailH5

63. Irondequoit Town Hall Park.....G4

64. Irving R. Kent ParkI4

65. Isaac Gordon Nature Park.....G8

66. Johnson ParkD8

67. Kregg Road ParkI7

68. Lehigh Valley Trail ParkF9

69. Lincoln Avenue
Community CenterG8

70. Linear ParkI5

71. Lions ParkE5

72. Lock No. 32 Erie Canal Trail...H7

73. Lower Falls ParkG5

74. Manhattan Square Park.....G5

75. Maplewood ParkF4

76. Maplewood Rose
Garden ParkF4

77. Memorial ParkE7

78. Memorial ParkE5

79. Mendon Ponds ParkG8

80. Mendon Sports ParkH8

81. Milton R. Chase
Memorial ParkI4

82. Northampton ParkB5

83. North Ponds ParkI4

84. Northside ParkI6

85. Oatka Creek ParkD9

86. Ontario Beach ParkG3

87. Pardee Tot LotG4

88. Park Road Tennis Courts.....H8

89. Parma Town ParkD3

90. Parma Town Hall ParkD3

91. Penfield Town Hall ParkI5

92. Perinton ParkJ7

93. Pineway Ponds ParkC5

94. Port of Pittsford ParkH7

95. Potter ParkI7

96. Powder Mills ParkI8

97. Ridge Webster ParkI4

98. Rudman Road ParkG4

99. Sawyer ParkE4

100. Schantz Village Manor Park...I4

101. Seneca ParkF4

102. Spezio ParkG4

103. Spring Lake ParkI6

104. Stoneybrook RoadF10

105. The CommonF10

106. Thornell Farm ParkH8

107. Tryon ParkH5

108. Tryon Park WestH5

109. Turning Point ParkG4

110. Upper Falls Terrace ParkF5

111. Veterans Memorial Park,
HenriettaF8

112. Veterans Memorial Park,
RushE10

113. Webster ParkI3

114. Wegman Road ParkE5

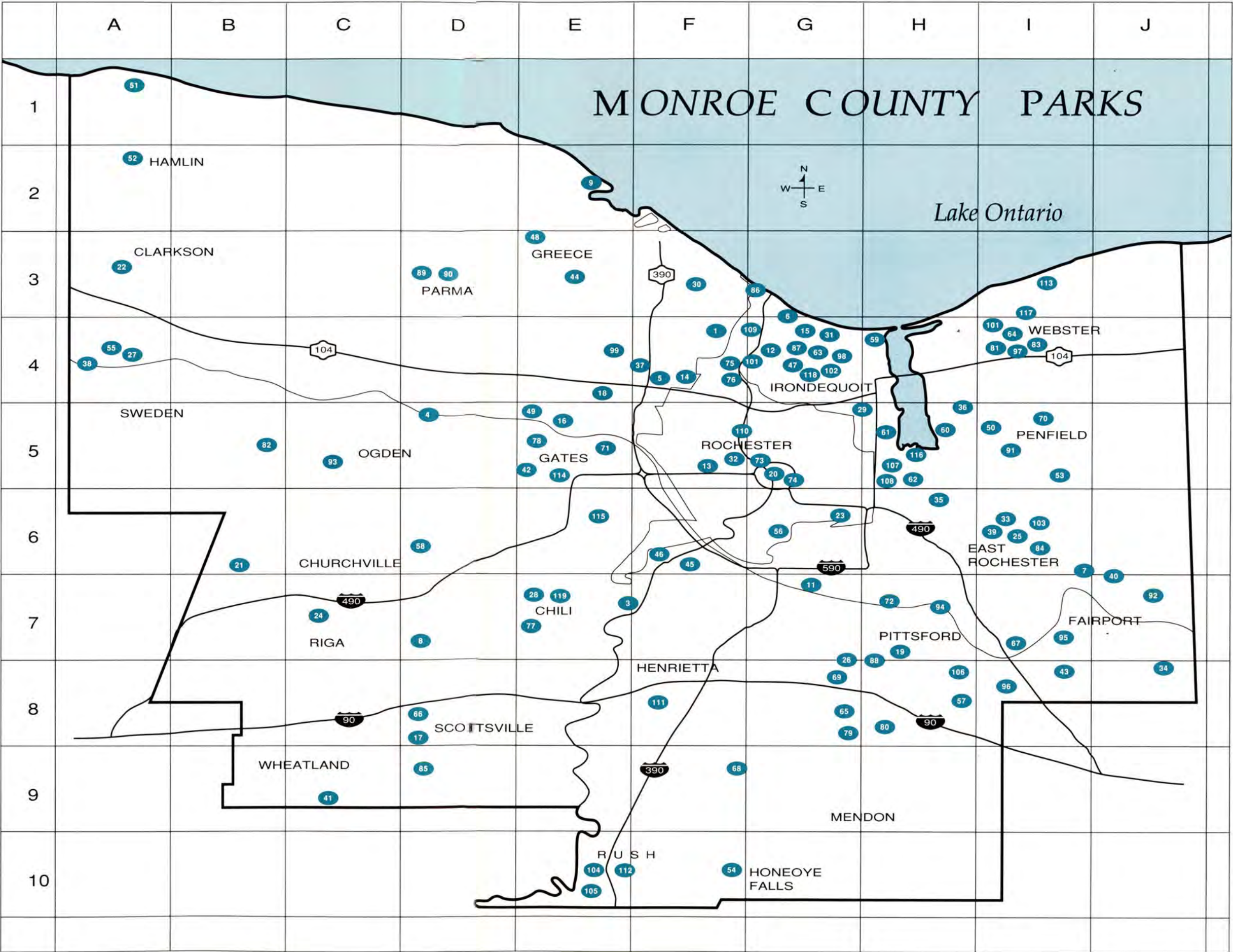
115. Westgate RecreationE6

116. Wetland AreaH5

117. Wilmorite ParkI3

118. Winton Tot LotG4

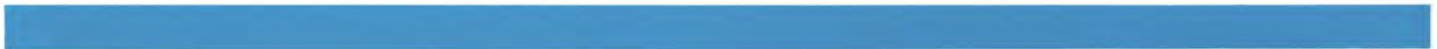
119. Yolanda ParkE7



Parks Activity Chart

	Jurisdiction *	Number of Acres	Bicycle Trails	Boat launches (boat-trailer)	Boat launches (car-top)	Bocce	Camping	Canoeing	Fishing	Golf	Hiking	Horseback Riding	Horseshoes	Ice Hockey	Ice Skating	Jogging Fitness Trails	Picnic Areas	Playground	Shuffleboard	Skiing (Cross-Country)	Skiing (Downhill)	Sledding	Soccer	Softball	Swimming Beaches	Swimming Pools	Tennis	Volleyball	Wading Pools
Adeline Park	T	6.5																•					•	•			•		
Ayrault Road Park	T	26																											
Ballantyne Park	T	2															•	•						•					
Barge Canal Area	T	3						•	•																				
Barnard Park	T	10									•						•	•					•	•			•		
Bateau Terrace Tot Lot	T	1.5																•											
Beechwoods	T	23									•																		
Black Creek Park	M	1,505					•				•	•					•			•									
Braddock Bay Park	T	440									•						•	•											
Brighton Town Park	T	387																											
Bristol Tot Lot	T	34							•		•					•	•	•						•					
Brown Square	T	0.5																•											
California Drive Park	R	4.5																•											
Camp Eastman (opening 88-89)	T	85															•												
Canal Side Park	V	0.5									•																		
Canawaugus Park	V	1						•	•								•												
Carter Park	T	12															•	•						•			•		
Carterville Trail Pittsford	T	13	•								•																		
Charles Carroll Park aka																													
Genesee Crossroads Park	R	3.5															•												
Churchville Park	M	742		•					•	•				•	•		•	•				•	•	•			•		
Clarkson Town Playground	T	2																•											
Cobbs Hill Reservoir Park	R	109							•						•		•	•				•		•		•	•		
Community Park	T	5										•																	
Concrest Park	V	2														•	•	•											
Copper Beach	T	1																											
Corbett Park	V	0.5														•	•										•		
Davis Park	T	52														•							•	•				•	
Densmore Park	T	16															•						•						
Dewey/Latta Par	T	65									•						•	•					•	•			•		
Durand-Eastman	M	965		•					•	•	•	•					•	•		•		•							
Edgerton Park	R	30																	•									•	
Edmund-Lyon Park	V	14														•		•						•			•		•
Egypt Park	T	12											•				•	•						•			•		
Ellison Park	M	447							•		•	•		•	•		•	•		•		•		•			•		
Empire Boulevard Park	T	60																					•	•					
English Road Park	T	100									•						•	•					•				•		
Erie Canal Heritage Trail	N	70 mi	•								•									•									
Eyer Park	V	14															•	•					•	•					
Fellows Road Park	T	31				•					•	•			•	•	•	•	•				•	•			•		

* Jurisdiction: M = Monroe County, R = City of Rochester, T = Town, V = Village, N = State



	Jurisdiction *	Number of Acres	Bicycle Trails	Boat launches (boat-trailer)	Boat launches (car-top)	Bocce	Camping	Canoeing	Fishing	Golf	Hiking	Horseback Riding	Horseshoes	Ice Hockey	Ice Skating	Jogging Fitness Trails	Picnic Areas	Playground	Shuffleboard	Skiing (Cross-Country)	Skiing (Downhill)	Sledding	Soccer	Softball	Swimming Beaches	Swimming Pools	Tennis	Volleyball	Wading Pools
Freeman Park	T	8															●							●			●		
Gates Town Hall Park	T	5																						●					
Garnsey Road Arboretum	T	20																											
Gary Beikirch Veterans Park	T	84																					●						
Genesee Valley Park	M	800	●		●					●	●						●						●	●					
Genesee Valley Park West	R	79	●					●	●						●									●		●			
George B. McAvoy Park	T	5																●						●			●		
Grandview Park	T	5															●	●					●	●			●		
Greece Canal Park	M	577									●						●												
Greenwood Park	T	20													●			●		●			●	●			●		
Hamlin Beach State Park	N	1,223	●		●		●		●		●						●	●		●					●				
Hamlin Town Hall Park	T	43							●									●						●			●		
Harris-Whalen Park	T	46													●		●	●		●		●	●	●			●		
Harry Allen Park	V	2																●											
Harvester Park	V	0.125														●													
Highland Park	M	150									●			●	●							●		●					
Hopkins Park	T	10																						●					
Hubbard Park	T	3															●	●						●					
Irondequoit Bay Marine Park	N	25		●					●																				
Irondequoit Bay Park East	M	182							●		●																		
Irondequoit Bay Park West	M	147			●				●																				
Irondequoit Creek Trail	T	28									●																		
Irondequoit Town Hall Park	T	20										●					●		●										
Irving R. Kent Park	T	85																						●					
Isaac Gordon Nature Park	T	103									●						●			●									
Johnson Park	V	9													●			●	●					●			●	●	
Kreag Road Park	T	9										●			●		●	●	●					●			●		
Lehigh Valley Trail Park	M	387.4	●						●		●																		
Lincoln Avenue Community Center	T	-																●						●					
Linear Park	T	18									●						●	●											
Lions Park	T	8							●								●	●					●	●			●		
Lock No. 32 Erie Canal Trail	T	-	●								●																		
Lower Falls Park	M	3																											
Manhattan Square Park	R	4.5																											●
Maplewood Park	R	144	●												●												●		
Maplewood Rose Garden Park	M	14																											
Memorial Park	T	7															●	●					●	●			●		
Memorial Park	T	41							●								●	●					●	●					
Mendon Ponds Park	M	2,514		●			●		●		●	●					●	●		●		●		●	●				
Mendon Sports Park	T	6																						●			●		

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Parks Activity Chart

	Jurisdiction *	Number of Acres	Bicycle Trails	Boat launches (boat-trailer)	Boat launches (car-top)	Bocce	Camping	Canoeing	Fishing	Golf	Hiking	Horseback Riding	Horseshoes	Ice Hockey	Ice Skating	Jogging Fitness Trails	Picnic Areas	Playground	Shuffleboard	Skiing (Cross-Country)	Skiing (Downhill)	Sledding	Soccer	Softball	Swimming Beaches	Swimming Pools	Tennis	Volleyball	Wading Pools
Milton R. Chase Memorial Park	V	14																											
Northampton Park	M	973																											
North Ponds Park	T	55																											
Northside Park	V	0.75																											
Oatka Creek Park	M	461																											
Ontario Beach Park	M	30																											
Pardee Tot Lot	T	0.5																											
Park Road Tennis Courts	T	0.5																											
Parma Town Park	T	0.25																											
Parma Town Hall Park	T	15																											
Penfield Town Hall Park	T	50																											
Perinton Park	T	7																											
Pineway Ponds Park	T	66																											
Port of Pittsford Park	T	2																											
Potter Park	V	10																											
Powder Mills Park	M	380																											
Ridge Webster Park	T	48																											
Rudman Road Park	T	1.5																											
Sawyer Park	T	10																											
Schantz Village Manor Park	V	4																											
Seneca Park	M	297																											
Spezio Park	T	0.33																											
Spring Lake Park	T	59																											
Stoneybrook Road	T	20																											
The Common	T	1																											
Thornell Farm Park	T	27																											
Tryon Park	M	82																											
Tryon Park West	R	82																											
Turning Point Park	R	100																											
Upper Falls Terrace Park	R	5																											
Veterans Memorial Park, Henrietta	T	30																											
Veterans Memorial Park, Rush	T	1																											
Webster Park	M	550																											
Wegman Road Park	T	2																											
Westgate Recreation	T	10																											
Wetland Area	M	307																											
Wilmorite Park	V	4																											
Winton Tot Lot	T	0.33																											
Yolanda Park	T	2																											

* Jurisdiction: M = Monroe County, R = City of Rochester, T = Town, V = Village, N = State

Additional Park Activities

In addition to the information listed on our activity reference chart, there are some additional things you should know so you can really enjoy our parks!

ATVs are not permitted in county or city parks. You can call the appropriate town or village recreation offices to check their ATV policies.

Ballfield reservations can be made by calling the County Parks Dept., the City Recreation Office, and the appropriate town or village recreation offices.

Camping is allowed at Hamlin Beach State Park (964-2462) and Webster Park (274-7760). Special permits must be obtained for group camping in the other parks listed on the activity chart. Call the County Parks Dept. for more information.

Canoeing is possible at many of our parks, but only Genesee Valley Park West has canoe rentals. Call 428-7005 for more information.

Cricket field can be found at Genesee Valley Park.

Golf course facilities:

Churchville Park, 293-9906

18-hole course, 6700 yards, par 72

9-hole course, 3180 yards, par 36

Durand-Eastman Park, 266-8364

18-hole course, 5950 yards, par 70

Genesee Valley Park, 424-2920

18-hole course, 2280 yards, par 70

18-hole course, 5620 yards, par 67

Greens fees for weekdays are \$6 for 18 holes and \$4 for 9 holes. On weekends and holidays, fees are \$7 for 18 holes and \$5 for 9 holes. All fees are subject to change. Call 274-7750 for more information.

Handball court can be found at Fellows Road Park in Perinton.

Ice Fishing. When it's cold enough, ice fishing is permitted in Mendon Ponds Park and Durand-Eastman Park.

Ice Hockey can be played at many of the city, town and village parks that have ice rinks, as well as those parks already listed on the activity chart. For more information on hours at the county parks, call the County Parks Dept. For more information on city or town parks, call the appropriate recreation department.

Ice Skating. Skate rentals are available at Manhattan Square Park, Webster Avenue Recreation Center and

Genesee Valley Park West. Each of these three rinks is available for rent by groups or organizations. Speed skating is permitted only at the Webster Avenue Recreation Center. Call the City Recreation Office for more information on rink rental and speed skating hours.

Skiing. Cross-country skiing is free in all municipal and county parks. For a map of ski trails, write: Ski Trail Maps, Monroe County Dept. of Parks, 375 Westfall Road, Rochester New York, 14620. For more information on cross-country ski lessons, call the City Recreation Office.

Downhill skiing is offered by Monroe County in conjunction with Bristol Mountain. There is a \$3 lift ticket charge. Open ski hours are:

Northampton Park, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on weekends and school holidays.

Powder Mills Park, Sundays 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. and school holidays 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Sledding: Enjoy the sport, but please be aware that sledding is prohibited in downhill ski areas, the top portion of the hill behind Oaktree Lodge in Powder Mills Park, and "10th Tee" hill in Durand-Eastman Park.

Snowboards are allowed on county sledding and toboggan hills. They are prohibited on downhill ski hills.

Snowmobiles may be operated in Hamlin Beach State Park. They are prohibited in county and city parks. Check with the appropriate town or village about snowmobile policies.

Swimming. In addition to the swimming pools listed on the activity chart, the City of Rochester maintains a number of pools at city recreation centers. Call the City Recreation Office for a list of those recreations centers. For more information on the swimming beaches, call the appropriate facility: Hamlin Beach State Park at 964-2462, Mendon Ponds Park at 334-9850, North Park in Webster at 872-2911 and Ontario Parks Beach at 865-6343.

Tennis. In addition to the courts listed on the activity chart, the City of Rochester maintains a number of additional courts at city recreation centers and schools. Call the City Recreation Office for more information.

IMPORTANT PARKS PHONE NUMBERS:

New York State Parks.....	493-2611
Monroe County Parks Dept.....	274-7750
City of Rochester Recreation Office.....	428-6755
Brighton.....	442-6585
Brockport.....	637-6030
Chili.....	889-4680
Clarkson.....	637-5650
East Rochester.....	381-0378
Fairport.....	223-5050
Gates.....	247-6100
Greece.....	227-3840
Hamlin.....	964-7222
Henrietta.....	359-2540
Honeoye Falls.....	624-1711
Irondequoit.....	467-8840
Mendon.....	624-2300
Ogden.....	352-3487
Parma.....	392-9030
Penfield.....	377-8655
Perinton.....	223-5050
Pittsford.....	248-6280
Riga.....	293-3880
Rush.....	533-1866
Scottsville.....	889-4700
Spencerport.....	352-4771
Sweden.....	637-2144
Webster.....	872-2911
Wheatland.....	889-1553
Lodge, Shelter, Camping Reservations.....	274-7760
Recorded Program Information County Parks.....	274-7784
Northampton Park Skiing.....	637-2345
Powder Mills Skiing.....	248-2777
Seneca Park Zoo.....	266-6846
Seneca Zoo Society.....	342-2744
Springdale Farm.....	352-5320
TDD/Hearing Impaired.....	244-0426

The respective parks departments listed above can provide information on handicapped accessibility to the parks.

The Parks in Monroe County

*I do not own an
inch of land, but
all I see is
mine."*

—Lucy Larcom

ADELINE PARK

Features a playground, softball field, two tennis courts and a soccer field.

Location: 124 Armstrong Road off Denise Road.

A Town of Greece Park of 6.5 acres.

AYRAULT ROAD PARK

Features an undeveloped natural area.

Location: Ayrault Road east of Turk Hill Road.

A Town of Perinton Park of 26 acres.

BALLANTYNE PARK

Features a playground, picnic area and softball field.

Location: Corner of Ballantyne and Scottsville Roads.

A Town of Chili Park of 2 acres.

BARGE CANAL AREA

Features a canoe and rowboat launch and fishing area.

Location: 631 Marsh Road, north of the Barge Canal.

A Town of Pittsford Park of 3 acres.

BARNARD PARK

Features playground, shelter, two softball fields, two tennis courts, a picnic area, hiking trails and soccer field.

Location: 410 Maiden Lane between Dewey Avenue and Mt. Read Boulevard.

A Town of Greece Park of 10 acres.

BATEAU TERRACE TOT LOT

Features a playground.

Location: Rock Beach Road at the North end of Bateau Terrace.

A Town of Irondequoit Park of 1.5 acres.

BEECHWOODS

Features hiking and nature trails.

Location: High Street Extension at Highwood Quarter

A Town of Perinton Park of 23 acres.

BLACK CREEK PARK

Acquired by the county in the 1960s, this park features two small ponds, a model airplane field for use with non-fuel gliders, a rental lodge, trails for hiking, horse-back riding and cross-country skiing, picnic areas, and group camping sites.

Location: Southwestern portion of the County, south of Route 33A and west of Union Street, in the towns of Chili and Riga. Enter from Union Street, Chili-Riga Town Line Road or Route 33A.

A Monroe County Park of 1,505 acres.

BRADDOCK BAY PARK

Features a playground, shelter, picnic area, Hawk Lookout Tower, pavilion, hiking trails, and lodge.

Location: 109 East Manitou Road, north of the East Manitou Road exit on the Lake Ontario State Parkway.

A Town of Greece Park of 440 acres.

BRIGHTON TOWN PARK

Features two pavilions, a lodge, nature and jogging trails, softball field, fishing area and playground.

Location: Near the corner of Westfall Road and Clinton Avenue. Enter from Westfall Road.

A Town of Brighton Park of 34 acres.





BRISTOL TOT LOT

Features a playground

Location: Corner of Bristol Avenue and Cooper Road.

A Town of Irondequoit Park of 0.5 acres.

BROWN SQUARE

Featuring a playground area.

Location: Northwest quadrant of the city, bordered by Verona Street on the east, Brown Street on the south, Kent Street on the west, and Jay Street on the north.

A City of Rochester Park of 4.5 acres.

CALIFORNIA DRIVE PARK

Features a picnic area.

Location: Corner of California Drive and Haviland Park.

A Town of Greece Park of 4 acres.

CAMP EASTMAN (opening 88-89)

Features four shelters, a lodge, picnic area.

Location: South of 1400 Lakeshore Boulevard, east of Colebrook Drive.

A Town of Irondequoit Park of 85 acres.

CANAL SIDE PARK

Features park benches and hiking trails.

Location: South Union Street adjacent to the New York State Barge Canal

A Village of Spencerport Park of 0.5 acres.

CANAWAUGUS PARK

Features picnic area, canoeing, kayaking and fishing in Oatka Creek.

Location: Route 251 (southern border of village) next to Oatka Creek.

A Village of Scottsville Park of 1 acre.

CARTER PARK

Features a playground, shelter, two softball fields, two T-ball fields, a baseball field, four tennis courts and a picnic area.

Location: 1281 Long Pond Road just south of West Ridge Road.

A Town of Greece Park of 12 acres.

CARTERVILLE TRAIL

Features a hiking trail, biking path and sitting area.

Location: Jefferson Road at East Street along the Barge Canal.

A Town of Pittsford Park of 13 acres.

CHARLES CARROLL PARK

Perhaps better known as Genesee Crossroads Park, this urban gem features generous public seating, landscaped picnic and strolling areas along both sides of the Genesee River. Located in the heart of downtown Rochester, the park is a favorite spot for downtown workers at lunchtime. The Sister Cities Bridge connects the two sides of the park, and features a display of flags from each of Rochester's international Sister Cities.

Location: Between Main Street and Andrews Street, along the Genesee River.

A City of Rochester Park of 3.5 acres.

CHURCHVILLE PARK

Packed with recreational opportunities, Churchville Park's rolling meadow land surrounds Black Creek. Golfers can choose between an 18-hole course and a 9-hole course, complete with clubhouse, pro shop and food concession. A car-top boat launch offers access to Black Creek for canoeists and fishermen. Tennis courts, four softball fields, five soccer

"We cannot command Nature except by obeying her."

— Francis Bacon.

*"The world
turns softly
Not to spill its
lakes and
rivers."*

—Hilda Conkling

fields, five lodges, nine picnic shelters and playgrounds create active family and community gatherings. Ice skating, complete with warming lodge, is available in the winter months.

Location: Southwestern portion of the county, north of Route 33 (Buffalo Road) partially within the village of Churchill and the Town of Riga. Enter from Kendall Road and Main Street.

A Monroe County Park of 742 acres.

CLARKSON TOWN PLAYGROUND

Features a playground unit with a castle, slide and tunnel.

Location: Route 19 north of Route 104.

A Town of Clarkson Park of 2 acres.

Best View Around

COBB'S HILL RESERVOIR PARK

The nucleus of Cobb's Hill Reservoir Park was given to the City by George Eastman and a few other generous citizens in 1905. It was developed in conjunction with the city's second reservoir at the top of that hill and the still-popular Riley Lake at the base of the slope.

The crest of the park offers one of the city's finest panoramic views, and generations of photographers have captured the downtown skyline on clear days—and nights. The path around the reservoir is a favorite for runners and

walkers. The park also offers nine softball fields, tennis courts, playground, fishing for children, ice skating, sledding and picnic areas.

Location: Corner of Monroe Avenue and Culver Road in the southeast corner of the city.

A City of Rochester Park of 109 acres.

COMMUNITY PARK

Features a shelter and horseshoe court

Location: 6475 Buffalo Road (opposite American Legion Post 954).

A Town of Riga Park of 5 acres.

CONCREST PARK

Features a pavilion and picnic area, basketball court, and playground.

Location: West Avenue in the Village of East Rochester.

A Village of East Rochester Park of 2 acres.

COPPER BEACH PARK

Features sitting area.

Location: 14 State Street in the Village of Pittsford.

A Town of Pittsford Park of 1 acre.

CORBETT PARK

Features a picnic area, tennis court and fitness trail.

Location: Corner of Clark Street and Smith Street in the Village of Brockport.

A Village of Brockport Park of 0.5 acres.

DAVIS PARK

Features two shelters, five soccer fields, six softball fields, volleyball courts and jogging trail

Location: Corner of Paul Road and Andony Lane. Enter from Chestnut Ridge Road.

A Town of Chili Park of 52 acres.

DENSMORE PARK

Features seven soccer fields and orchard picnic area.

Location: North of Norton Street on the west side of Densmore Road.

A Town of Irondequoit Park of 16 acres.

DEWEY/LATTA PARK

Features a playground, shelter, three softball fields, two tennis courts, two soccer fields, basketball courts, picnic area and hiking trails.

Location: 1100 Latta Road. Enter from Latta Road or Dewey Avenue.

A Town of Greece Park of 65 acres.



Picnic with a Lake View

DURAND-EASTMAN PARK

With 5,000 feet of Lake Ontario waterfront, Durand Eastman Park is a favorite for summertime sun worshipers. Golfers enjoy the 18-hole course—complete with clubhouse, pro shop and food concession—and cross country skiers find hilly terrain to conquer and a welcome warming shelter.

Durand-Eastman Park is considered part of the Monroe County Arboretum, in combination with Highland Park, because of its many mature plant specimens. Originally the estate of Dr. Henry Durand, the park was a gift to the city by Dr. Durand and George Eastman, who acquired some adjacent lands to increase the park's size. It was dedicated in 1909 with public ceremonies that included a dramatized Indian battle and a game of lacrosse.

In addition to cross-country ski trails, the park provides hiking and bridle trails. Seven picnic shelters with tables and grills can accommodate parties of 30 to 80 people.

Location: Northernmost section of the City of Rochester, on the shore of Lake Ontario, west of Irondequoit Bay, east of the Genesee River. Enter from Lakeshore Boulevard off Culver Road or at St. Paul Boulevard and Kings Highway.

A Monroe County Park of 965 acres.

For Rainy Days, Model Trains

EDGERTON PARK

This urban get-away spot features a lighted softball field, tennis courts, a running track, playground and a swimming pool. Within the Edgerton Park Recreation Center is the Model Train Room, which features four model train exhibits and a mini-museum of model railroading. The train room is open Monday through Friday from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. Admission is free for children under six, 50 cents for children 7- to 18-years-old and senior citizens, and \$1 for adults. Guided individual tours are available on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. (no advance registration necessary) and guided group tours can be arranged by calling the center at 428-6760 on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings.

Location: West side of the City at the corner of Dewey Avenue and Bloss Street.

A City of Rochester Park of 30 acres.



EDMUND-LYON PARK

Features tennis courts, softball field, fitness trail, playground, basketball court and wading pool.

Location: Main Street in the Village of East Rochester.

A Village of East Rochester Park of 14 acres.

EGYPT PARK

Features two tennis courts, a softball field, picnic area with shelter, playground and horseshoe courts.

Location: Corner of Route 31 and Victor Road (north of Lollipop Farm.)

A Town of Perinton Park of 12 acres.

The First County Park

ELLISON PARK

Officially the first Monroe County Park, Ellison Park came into being when the county in December of 1926 accepted the gift of approximately 200 acres of land from Mr. and Mrs. Frank T. Ellison in memory of Mr. Ellison's father, Nathaniel. Development began in spring of the following year and the park was officially dedicated as the first Monroe County Park in October of 1927.

During the next 20 years, Ellison Park grew as rapidly as the entire parks system, and today's Ellison Park includes 447 acres. Adjacent to the Irondequoit Bay Wetlands, the natural

*"Who loves
a garden
finds within
his soul
Life's whole."*

— Louise Seymour Jones

"When you have only two pennies left in the world, buy a loaf of bread with one, and a lily with the other."

— Chinese proverb.

beauty of this park springs from its combination of steep hills and the level flood plain of Irondequoit Creek.

A favorite spot for picnic gatherings, the park has five lodges with such amenities as electric stoves and fireplaces. Creekside Lodge is used as a shelter for skaters enjoying the park's winter ice rink. Eight more picnic shelters with fireplaces and grills provide good locations for family, company and community picnics. The park also has eight tennis courts and five softball fields, a playground, and trails for hiking, horseback riding and cross country skiing.

Location: Eastern portion of the county, in the towns of Brighton and Penfield, one mile east of Rochester. Enter from Blossom or Landing Roads.

A Monroe County Park featuring 447 acres.

EMPIRE BOULEVARD PARK

Features four softball fields and three soccer fields.

Location: Empire Boulevard opposite Webster Manor Drive.

A Town of Webster Park of 60 acres.

ENGLISH ROAD PARK

Features a playground, two shelters, picnic area, hiking trails, four baseball fields, three soccer fields, six lighted tennis courts and two lighted basketball courts.

Location: 1077 English Road between Long Pond Road and Mt. Read Boulevard.

A Town of Greece Park of 100 acres.



ERIE CANAL HERITAGE TRAIL

Following the New York State Barge Canal from Wayne County to Niagara County, this trail park features hiking, bicycling and cross-country ski trails, as well as access to boat launches near Bates Road, Fruit Avenue, Brooks Avenue, Westfall Road, Jefferson Road and Clover Street, and Marsh Road. Access to the trail for biking and hiking is available at 65 separate points near major thoroughfares.

Location: Along the New York State Barge Canal, beginning at the Niagara/Orleans County border and running to the Wayne County border.

A New York State Park of 70 miles.

EYER PARK

Features picnic area, shelter, playground, softball field and soccer field.

Location: At the end of East Commercial Street.

A Village of East Rochester Park of 14 acres.

FELLOWS ROAD PARK

Features a community building, multi-purpose blacktop area, ice rink, two shelters, three softball fields, shuffleboard, bocce, horseshoe courts, a soccer field, jogging-fitness trail, basketball court, handball courts, four lighted tennis courts and a playground.

Location: 499 Fellows Road on the corner of East Whitney Road and Fellows Road.

A Town of Perinton Park of 31 acres.

FREEMAN PARK

Features a picnic area, softball field, tennis court and basketball court.

Location: State Street in the hamlet of Mumford.

A Town of Wheatland Park of 8 acres.

GATES TOWN HALL PARK

Features a lighted softball field.

Location: 1605 Buffalo Road, behind Gates Town Hall.

A Town of Gates Park of 5 acres.

GARNSEY ROAD ARBORETUM

Features a scenic area.

Location: Between Wincanton Drive and Dunmow Crescent.

A Town of Perinton Park of 20 acres.

GARY BEIKIRCH VETERANS PARK

Features four softball fields.

Location: 643 Long Pond Road north of Latta Road.

A Town of Greece Park of 84 acres.

Rolling Fields for Golfers and Skiers

GENESEE VALLEY PARK

A favorite spot for golfers and cross-country skiers, Genesee Valley Park is one of the oldest in the Monroe County Parks System. The idea for the park was conceived within the first year of the Rochester Park Commission as one of two major parks they would develop first. During those first planning stages, the two parks were referred to as "North" and "South." The "South Park" was named Genesee Valley Park in deference to the area's Indian heritage and of course its major feature, the Genesee River.

The naturally occurring rolling pastoral fields of the area were emphasized in the park's design by Frederick Law Olmsted.

The 800-acre park today offers two 18-hole golf courses, complemented by a clubhouse with pro shop and food concession. Soccer fields, cricket fields, and seven softball fields provide ample opportunities for the amateur sports fans. Hiking trails and biking paths take visitors through picturesque riverside wilderness, and the park's eight picnic shelters host numerous family and community picnics.

Location: Eastern bank of the Genesee River within the City of Rochester. Enter from Elmwood Avenue at Wilson Boulevard, East River Road, or Crittenden Road.

A Monroe County Park featuring 800 acres.

GENESEE VALLEY PARK WEST

This city park, located on the western bank of the Genesee River, across from Genesee Valley Park, shares the lush pastoral wilderness of its neighboring county park. Footbridges, as well as the Elmwood Avenue Bridge, connect the two parks. Genesee Valley Park West offers a public swimming pool, baseball diamond, softball fields, tennis courts, and an ice skating rink. Canoe rentals are available for those who wish to see the park from the Genesee River. Call 428-7005 for more information on canoe rentals.

Location: West of the Genesee River off Elmwood Avenue. Enter the park directly opposite Plymouth Avenue South.

A City of Rochester Park of 79 acres.

GEORGE B. McAVOY PARK

Features four lighted tennis courts with practice wall, two lighted softball fields, playground, a shelter with concession area, a meeting room.

Location: Corner of Winton Road North and Empire Boulevard.

A Town of Irondequoit Park of 5 acres.

GRANDVIEW PARK

Features a picnic area, playground, shelter, softball field, two tennis courts and a soccer field.

Location: 281 Lowden Point Road off Edgemere Drive.

A Town of Greece Park of 5 acres.

Sheep grazing in Genesee Valley Park, Rochester, N. Y.



GREECE CANAL PARK

Features hiking trails, picnic areas, and lodges for use between May 15 and October 15.

Location: Western portion of the county in town of Greece, south of Route 104 (Ridge Road), north of the New York State Barge Canal. Enter from Elmgrove Road.

A Monroe County Park of 577 acres.

GREENWOOD PARK

Features a soccer field, softball field, basketball court, tennis courts, playground, lighted ice rink, cross-country ski trails.

Location: Scribner Road and Embury Road, north of Bay Trail Middle School.

A Town of Penfield Park of 20 acres.

AUTHENTIC SHEEP FOR A PASTORAL PARK

Under the advice of park architect Frederick Law Olmsted, the Parks Commission in the late 1880s acquired a herd of sheep to crop the grass and add a pastoral atmosphere to Genesee Valley Park.



Route 250.

A Town of Penfield Park of 46 acres.

HARRY ALLEN PARK

Features a playground and meeting hall.

Location: Allen Park and North Main Street in the Village of Honeoye Falls.

A Village of Honeoye Falls Park of 2 acres.

HARVESTER PARK

Features a picnic area and overnight boat docking on the New York State Barge Canal.

Location: Market Street adjacent to the Barge Canal.

A Village of Brockport Park of 0.125 acres.

The Reason for the Celebration: 100 Years

HIGHLAND PARK

Now best known as the home of Rochester's famous Lilac Festival, Highland Park has a history as colorful as its 500 varieties of the flowering shrubs. Highland is the first of Rochester's public parks, so dedicated in 1888 by a Rochester Park Commission.

Expertly designed by Frederick Law Olmsted to seem like a natural occurrence of trees, shrubs and flowers, Highland Park is actually a completely planned—and planted—arboretum or "tree garden."

In addition to the 1200 lilac shrubs that comprise the 22-acre springtime hillside display along Highland Avenue, the park boasts a Japanese Maple collection, 35 varieties of sweet-smelling magnolias, a barberry collection, a rock garden featuring dwarf evergreens, 700 varieties of rhododendron, azaleas, mountain laurel and andromeda, horse chestnuts, spring bulbs and wildflowers, and a large number of rare trees.

The pansy bed features 10,000 plants annually designed into an oval floral "carpet" with a new pattern each year.

The Lamberton Conservatory was reopened to the public in 1988 after extensive renovations to the 1911 building. Exhibits within the conservatory change five times a year, and feature seasonal floral displays that might not otherwise survive Rochester's temperate climate. The Main Dome protects the Tropical Forest Display, and other climate controlled rooms contain collections of exotic plants, desert plants,

"I would rather have missed Yellowstone Park than... Highland Park"

— Peter Barr,
distinguished London
Horticulturist, 1899.

Pitch the Tent; Hook Up the Trailer

HAMLIN BEACH STATE PARK

This large state park is a favorite spot for campers and sunbathers, who enjoy the extensive sandy beaches along Lake Ontario. Tent and trailer camping with electrical hookups, a trailer dump station, showers, camper recreation programs, and park store provide all the necessary conveniences for a camping vacation. Lifeguards supervise the swimming beaches. A hand boat launch, fishing area, picnic tables, shelters, hiking trails, nature trails, bike paths, playground, cross-country skiing trails, and snowmobile trails make this a "full-service" state park.

Location: On the Lake Ontario State Parkway 25 miles west of Rochester.

A New York State Park of 1,223 acres.

HAMLIN TOWN HALL PARK

Features a basketball courts, two softball fields, two tennis courts and a playground.

Location: 1568 Lake Road in the center of the Town of Hamlin

A Town of Hamlin Park of 43 acres.

HARRIS-WHALEN PARK

Features a football field, four softball fields (one lighted), four lighted tennis courts, two basketball courts, lighted sledding hill, cross-country ski trail, two picnic areas, two shelters, three playgrounds and an ice skating rink.

Location: Penfield Route (Route 441) west of the corner of Penfield Road and

"economic use" plants such as banana and coffee trees, and house plants. The conservatory is open Tuesday through Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m and Wednesday evenings until 8 p.m.

Historic Warner Castle, a castellated Gothic style residence that was the home of Rochester attorney and newspaper editor Horatio Gates Warner, is now the headquarters for the Garden Center of Rochester. A non-profit educational organization, the Garden Center collects and disseminates horticultural information. Its display gardens include a Sunken Garden, a Shady Border, Rock Garden, Courtyard Garden, Iris and Daylily Bed, Old-Fashioned Rose Bed, Miniature Rose Bed, Fern Bed, and a 13th Century Herb Garden.

Highland Bowl, officially the John Dunbar Memorial Pavilion, features an outdoor amphitheater. The site for summertime concerts sponsored by the City of Rochester and featuring

Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, the pavilion is available for rent by organizations and individuals.

The recently constructed Glass Pavilion, located near the corner of Highland and South Avenues, with its interesting architectural form, brick patio, fountain and benches, is open to the public from 8 a.m. to dusk and is also available for rent for small receptions and weddings.

Thousands of visitors descend upon Highland Park during the annual Lilac Festival, held in May. Rochester shows off its most elegant floral finery during the spectacular festival, which also includes musical and dramatic entertainment, foot races, an arts and crafts show, and numerous other activities.

Modern-day recreational facilities at the park include a small pond used as a winter ice-skating rink, a popular sledding hill and warming shelter,

"I like trees because they seem more resigned to the way they have to live than other things do." — Willa Cather



A MONUMENT TO THE CHILDREN

Built in 1890 and dedicated to the children of Rochester, the Children's Pavilion stood on the summit of the hill near Highland Reservoir in Highland Park. Its three stories afforded a wondrous view of the southern reaches of the county, as well as a place for children to play and bands to perform. It was torn down in the 1960s because it had fallen into disrepair.

A RELUCTANT BEGINNING TO ROCHESTER'S PARKS

Two prominent Rochester nurserymen—George Ellwanger and Patrick Berry—provided the impetus to the beginning of Rochester's park system when, in 1883, they made a gift of 20 acres of their nursery grounds to the city. But the Common Council at first refused to accept the land for development into a park, citing more pressing civic needs. Despite this reluctance—also shown in restrictions such as \$2 fines on offenders throwing balls in the streets, bathing in the river or in the canals, flying kites within the precincts, racing horses in the streets—public pressure for outdoor facilities continued to grow. When Rochesterians flocked to Niagara Falls in 1885 to witness the dedication of the country's first state park reserve, Alderman George W. Elliott took his cue to press the Common Council, using a sophisticated political argument that parkland would encourage superior residential development nearby, and thus bring more real estate taxes into the city coffers.

The Ellwanger and Barry offer was resubmitted in 1887, and Mayor Cornelius R. Parsons formally accepted the 20-acre gift on January 27, 1888.

Alderman Elliott made his next astute move by insisting that the parks be administered by an independent commission, thereby removing the issue from the political vagaries of the Council. The commission chose as its president Dr. Edward Mott Moore, and the Rochester Park System was born.

Celebrated landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted—who designed New York City's Central Park, the first urban public park in America specifically designed for that purpose—was retained to design Highland Park. Accurately predicting that "some day persons will make it a point to stop off at Rochester to visit your parks," Olmsted went on to design Genesee Valley Park, Seneca Park, and Maplewood Park.

*"Pluck a daisy
here—elsewhere
in the universe
a great star
trembles."*

—Robert Phillips

hiking paths, and a softball field.

Location: Southern edge of city of Rochester, borders Highland Avenue. Enter park from South Goodman Street, Highland Avenue, or Mt. Hope Avenue.
A Monroe County Park of 150 acres.

HOPKINS PARK

Features two softball fields.

Location: 5 Baker Road on the corner of Mendon Center Road and Baker Road.
A Town of Pittsford Park of 10 acres.

HUBBARD PARK

Features a playground area, softball field, basketball court and picnic area

Location: Corner of Union Street and Buffalo Road in North Chili.
A Town of Chili Park of 3 acres.

IRONDEQUOIT BAY MARINE PARK

This boat launch and fishing area provide public access to the beautiful waters of Irondequoit Bay.

Location: End of Route 590 North.
A New York State Park of 25 acres.

IRONDEQUOIT BAY PARKS EAST AND WEST

These two parks are located on opposite sides of the Irondequoit Bay. Both offer hiking and access to the Irondequoit Bay shoreline for fishing. Irondequoit Bay Park West is in the Town of Irondequoit,



and also includes a car-top boat launch. Irondequoit Bay Park East is in the Town of Penfield.

Location: Irondequoit Bay Park East is on the southeastern shoreline of Irondequoit Bay within the town of Penfield. Enter from Smith Road off Empire Boulevard.

Irondequoit Bay Park West is on the southwestern shore of of Irondequoit

Bay, north of Empire Boulevard and east of the Seabreeze Expressway, in the town of Irondequoit.

Monroe County Parks of 182 acres (East) and 147 acres (West).

IRONDEQUOIT CREEK TRAIL

Features a hiking trail.

Location: 230 Thornell Road (trail runs from Thornell Road to Powder Mill Park).

A Town of Pittsford Park of 28 acres.

IRONDEQUOIT TOWN HALL PARK

Features two horseshoe pits, shuffleboard and picnic tables.

Location: Corner of Titus Avenue and Kings Highway.

A Town of Irondequoit Park of 20 acres.

IRVING R. KENT PARK

Features four softball fields.

Location: Schlegel Road near Basket Road.

A Town of Webster Park of 85 acres.

ISAAC GORDON NATURE PARK

Features hiking and cross-country ski trails and a picnic area.

Location: 3450 Clover Street in southern part of Town of Pittsford.

A Town of Pittsford Park of 103 acres.

JOHNSON PARK

Features a shelter with fireplace, two softball fields, tennis courts, basketball courts, volleyball courts, ice skating rink and playground.

Location: Browns Avenue in the center of the Village of Scottsville.

A Village of Scottsville Park of 9 acres.

KREAG ROAD PARK

Features two lighted tennis courts, two softball fields (one lighted), playground, two shuffleboard courts, picnic area, shelter, ice rink and horseshoe courts.

Location: 555 Kreag Road

A Town of Perinton Park of 9 acres.

LEHIGH VALLEY TRAIL PARK

The Lehigh Valley Trail will eventually run across Monroe County along the path of the Lehigh Valley Railroad abandoned "right of way." The park now offers pedestrian and bike paths as well as fishing on Honeoye Creek and the Genesee River.

Location: Southern portion of the county in the towns of Mendon, Henrietta and Rush, south and west of Mendon Ponds Park.

A Monroe County Park of 387.4 acres.

LINCOLN AVENUE COMMUNITY CENTER

Features a gymnasium, meeting and recreational program rooms, one multipurpose field, a softball field and playground.

Location: 35 Lincoln Avenue between Sutherland Street and Main Street.

A Town of Pittsford Park.

LINEAR PARK

Features a nature trail along Irondequoit Creek, a picnic area, shelter and playground.

Location: Corner of Route 441 and Washington Street.

A Town of Penfield Park of 18 acres.

LIONS PARK

Features a softball field, soccer field, four tennis courts, a shelter, four picnic grills, playground and fishing pond.

Location: 2080 Kentucky Avenue (north of Route 31 off Long Pond Road).

A Town of Gates Park of 8 acres.

LOCK NO. 32 ERIE CANAL TRAIL

Features hiking and biking trail with scenic view of historic Erie Canal lock.

Location: French Road near Clover Street.

A Town of Pittsford Park.

LOWER FALLS PARK

Overlooking the Lower Falls on the Genesee River, this small park offers a beautiful scenic vista, forever preserved.

Location: On the west bank of the Genesee River, within the City of Rochester. Enter from Driving Park Avenue.

A Monroe County Park of 3 acres.

MANHATTAN SQUARE PARK

"How does it stay up?" is the question children ask their parents when they first see Manhattan Square Park's "space frame," a construction of metal tubing above the park's sunken performance area. A favorite summer spot for concerts and dancing, the park includes a wading pool for tots, a playground, tennis courts and a restaurant. The summer basketball court becomes a winter ice skating rink that's a favorite lunchtime get-away for downtown workers.

Location: Within downtown Rochester, on the corner of Court and Chestnut Streets.

A City of Rochester Park of 4.5 acres.

MAPLEWOOD PARK

Designed by Frederick Law Olmsted, this park along the Genesee River once was the home of a bandstand that hosted hundreds of musical performances every summer.

The park offers ice skating, tennis courts, hiking trails and bike paths.

Location: West side of the city. Enter at Driving Park Avenue and Lake Avenue.

A City of Rochester Park of 144 acres.

Take Time To Smell the Roses

MAPLEWOOD ROSE GARDEN PARK

The heady, intoxicating scent of roses fills the air around Maplewood Rose Garden Park throughout most of the summer months. The approximately 3,500 roses that bloom in the park represent 250 varieties, including hybrid tea roses, and smaller collections of grandifloras, hybrid perpetuals, florabunda and shrub roses. Peak blooming time usually occurs around the third week of June, and flowering continues through the first frost.

Location: West of the Genesee River, within the City of Rochester, on the corner of Driving Park and Lake Avenues.

A Monroe County Park of 14 acres.

MEMORIAL PARK

Features a lighted soccer field, four softball fields, two baseball fields, playground, tennis courts and picnic area.

Location: 3235 Chili Avenue, behind Chili Town Hall.

A Town of Chili Park of 7 acres.

MEMORIAL PARK

Features three softball fields, two soccer fields, a shelter with tables, four picnic grills, playground and fishing pond.

Location: 150 Spencerport Road, behind St. Theodore's Church.

A Town of Gates Park of 41 acres.

An Ice Age Creation

MENDON PONDS PARK

The abundance of recreational facilities at Mendon Ponds almost obscures the fact that this is a living natural history museum of glacial geology. Because of these unique geological formations, Mendon Ponds was named to the National Registry of Natural Landmarks in 1969.

Many of the "ponds" that give the park its name are really "kettles,"

"Flowers have an expression of countenance as much as men or animals. Some seem to smile, some have a sad expression, some are pensive and diffident, others again are plain, honest and upright."

— Henry Ward Beecher

*"I think that I
shall never see
A poem lovely
as a tree."*

—Joyce Kilmer

roughly circular depressions left behind by melting ice blocks that broke apart from retreating glacial ice sheets.

"Devil's Bathtub" is the most prominent and well known of the kettles. Round Pond and Lost Pond are also water-filled kettles.

Most of the glacial formations found in the park are the result of the melting of the Wisconsin ice sheet, the last of four major sheets to expand and retreat in the past two to three million years. "Kames" are conical hills of rock and rubble that were left behind by rivers that flowed across the melting ice sheet and into the glacial lake at the edges, carrying rock and dirt with them.

"Eskers" are low, snaking ridges of rubble formed when a river bored a hole through the melting ice sheet and flowed under the sheet in a winding tunnel.

The park's Nature Center provides maps and displays of the glacial formations to guide visitors in search of these ancient landmarks. Ironically, Mendon Ponds Park's glacial geology is best appreciated in fall, winter and early spring, when foliage does not hide the features.

This largest of the county parks is also filled with recreational opportunities and activities. Hiking, bridle and cross-country ski areas crisscross the park. A supervised swimming area with bathhouse is found at Hundred Acre Pond. Fishing areas and a boat launch (motorized boats not permitted), seven picnic shelters, many picnic areas, two softball fields, five lodges, playgrounds, and a group camping area (which requires a special permit) are all within

the park.

Location: Southeastern portion of the county, in the towns of Pittsford and Mendon, east of Route 65 (Clover Street) and south of the New York State Thruway. Enter from Route 65 or Pittsford-Mendon Center Road.

A Monroe County Park of 2,514 acres.

MENDON SPORTS PARK

Features two tennis courts and a softball field.

Location: Semmel Road next to the Town of Mendon Highway Garage.

A Town of Mendon Park of 6 acres.

MILTON R. CHASE MEMORIAL PARK

Features wooded nature trails.

Location: South of Ridge Road off Sherwood Street in the Village of Webster.

A Village of Webster Park of 14 acres.

Everything from Sheep to Skiing

NORTHAMPTON PARK

Many a fledgling downhill racer began his or her passion for the sport at the rope tow at Northampton Park. The County Parks Department has contracted with Bristol Mountain ski resort to operate a downhill ski school at Northampton Park. Call 637-2345 for more information on the program.

One of the newer additions to the county parks system, Northampton Park also attracts the slightly less adventurous winter visitor with sledding hills, cross-country ski trails and a warming shelter. Hiking and bridle trails also crisscross the large park. A playground, two softball fields, and two lodges also are found at Northampton. Group camping is possible with a special permit.

Springdale Farm is an educational farm, operated by the county parks department, within Northampton Park. A perfect spot for kids to learn about farming, Springdale Farm houses dairy and beef cattle, pigs and sheep, dairy goats, geese, chickens, ducks, and turkeys. Demonstration vegetable and herb gardens, pastures, field crops and the fruit orchard offer a diversity of farming activities. The farm is open year round from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays and from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekends and holidays. Admission is free and group tours can be scheduled. Call 352-5320 for more information.

Location: Western Portion of the county, in towns of Sweden and Ogdenville, south of Route 31 (Spencerport Road)



and west of Route 36 (Washington Street). Enter from Colby Street, Salmon Creek Road and Route 31, Hubbell Road, Sweden-Walker Road or Route 36 (Washington Street).

A Monroe County Park of 973 acres.

NORTH PONDS PARK

Features bike paths, boating area, fishing area, jogging and hiking trails, picnic area and swimming.

Location: Route 104 East between Holt Road and North Avenue.

A Town of Webster Park of 55 acres.

NORTHSIDE PARK

Features a picnic shelter and area, basketball court, wading pool and playground.

Location: Garfield Avenue in the Village of East Rochester.

A Village of East Rochester Park of 0.75 acres.

OATKA CREEK PARK

Fly casting only is the rule for trout fishers seeking to harvest the rich waters of Oatka Creek. The park offers hiking and cross-country skiing, a lodge and a group camping area, available for use with a special permit.

Location: Southern portion of the county in the town of Wheatland, south of Route 383 (Scottsville Road) and west of Union Street (County Road 170). Enter from Union Street and Steward Road.

A Monroe County Park of 461 acres.

Surf's Up

ONTARIO BEACH PARK

This popular park contains one of the Great Lakes' best natural sand beaches, which is several hundred feet in depth and covers more than one-half mile of frontage along Lake Ontario. Supervised swimming is offered each day from June through Labor Day, from 10:30 a.m. to dusk.

The 1905 Dentzel menagerie carousel, now being restored to its original splendor, provides a turn-of-the-century flavor to the park, which also includes a performance pavilion that often features the County Parks Band. A year-round public boat launch, as well as the lighted fishing pier, attract record numbers of fishermen and pleasure boaters. The pier is also a favorite spot for a romantic and picturesque stroll. Soccer and softball fields, six picnic shelters, volleyball courts, a food concession, a bathhouse and the parade of boats that enter Lake Ontario from the Genesee River provide



all that's necessary for a perfect summer day at the beach. An ice skating rink rounds out the park's all-season activities.

Location: Northwest corner of the City of Rochester on the shore of Lake Ontario. Enter from Lake or Beach Avenues.

A Monroe County Park of 39 acres.

PARDEE TOT LOT

Features a playground.

Location: Pardee Road, opposite Meadowcroft Road.

A Town of Irondequoit Park of 0.5 acres.

PARK ROAD TENNIS COURTS

Features two tennis courts.

Location: Park Road School, 50 Park Road.

A Town of Pittsford Park of 0.5 acres.

PARMA TOWN PARK

Features a picnic area.

Location: Corner of Ridge Road West and Route 259 next to Ogden-Parma Fire Hall.

A Town of Parma Park of 0.25 acres.

PARMA TOWN HALL PARK

Features a picnic shelter, picnic area, soccer field and softball field.

Location: Parma Town Hall at 1300 Hilton-Parma Corners Road.

A Town of Parma Park of 15 acres.

PENFIELD TOWN HALL PARK

Features five Little League baseball fields, four softball fields, concession stand and playground.

Location: 3100 Altantic Avenue at Jackson Road.

A Town of Penfield Park of 50 acres.

THE CONEY ISLAND OF ROCHESTER

Ontario Beach Park was a true "hot spot" around the turn of the century, when tens of thousands of Rochesterians flocked to the beach on summer days. A water slide, elephant shows, concerts, beach hotels, the pier and the boardwalk lured many to the beach, only a 5-cent trolley ride away from the city.

"In every outthrust headland, in every curving beach, in every grain of sand there is a story of the earth."

— Rachel Carson

*If 'tweren't for
sight and sound
and smell,
I'd like the city
pretty well,
But when it
comes to getting
rest,
I like the
country lots the
best."*

—Nixon Waterman

PERINTON PARK

Features six lighted tennis courts, picnic area, shelters, bocce courts, canoe launch, playground and fishing area.

Location: Fairport Road at O'Connor Road.

A Town of Perinton Park of 7 acres.

PINEWAY PONDS PARK

Features three softball fields, three soccer fields, a picnic shelter and playground.

Location: Route 259, 1/4 mile north of the Village of Spencerport.

A Town of Ogden Park of 66 acres.

PORT OF PITTSFORD PARK

Features a sitting area, boat dock, electrical service and fishing area.

Location: 22 North Main Street in the Village of Pittsford.

A Town of Pittsford Park of 2 acres.

POTTER PARK

Features two lighted tennis courts, playground, shuffleboard courts, multi-use areas, basketball court, athletic



fields, two ice skating rinks, one used for hockey.

Location: Corner of West Church Street and Potter Place in the Village of Fairport.

A Village of Fairport Park of 10 acres.

Home of the Fish Hatchery

POWDER MILLS PARK

Featuring diverse topography that ranges from steep hillsides to flat creekside meadows and swamp lands, Powder Mills Park is the site of the popular fish hatchery. Approximately 12,000 trout are raised in the hatchery each year, and released into Irondequoit Creek when grown. The hatchery is open to the public Monday through Sunday from 8 a.m. to dusk, and specialized tours, demonstrations and lectures can

be arranged with advance notice.

Fishing, with a New York State license, is allowed in Irondequoit Creek.

Powder Mills also features downhill skiing at the beginners and intermediate levels, complete with snow-making, lessons and equipment rental provided by Bristol Mountain. A rope tow is maintained. Open skiing is held on Sundays from noon to 4 p.m. and during school holidays. The lift ticket charge is \$3. For more information about lessons and rentals, call 248-2777.

The park also offers four tennis courts, picnic areas with tables and grills, playgrounds, five shelters, seven lodges, trails for hiking and cross-country skiing, a sledding hill and a warming shelter.

Location: Southern portion of the County, southeast of Rochester in the Town of Perinton. Enter from Route 96 south of Bushnell's Basin near Interstate 490 Exit.

A Monroe County Park of 380 acres.

RIDGE WEBSTER PARK

Features three soccer fields, two softball fields and playground.

Location: Van Ingen Drive (behind Webster Library) north of Ridge Road.

A Town of Webster Park of 48 acres.

RUDMAN ROAD PARK

Features a softball field and playground.

Location: Rudman Road at the end of Brandon Road.

A Town of Irondequoit Park of 1.5 acres.

SAWYER PARK

Features a playground, two shelters, picnic area and hiking trails.

Location: 732 Long Pond Road south of Latta Road.

A Town of Greece Park of 10 acres.

SCHANTZ VILLAGE MANOR PARK

Features tennis courts, ice skating rink, softball field and playground.

Location: End of Holly Drive at Southwick Drive.

A Village of Webster Park of 4 acres.

Lions and Tigers and Bears

SENECA PARK

Originally North Park, this three-mile preserve of forested river gorge was renamed Seneca (which means "stone") to recognize its Indian heritage as well as the deeply cut stone in the river gorge. Another of Frederick Law Olmsted's works of living art, the park includes Trout Lake, created by damming a

natural spring. Swan boats carried visitors around the lake until 1922, propelled by drivers who pedaled the boats like bicycles.

Today, Seneca Park is best known as the home of the Seneca Park Zoo, created in 1894. The zoo now houses more than 600 animals, representing almost 200 species. The roar of lions, the majesty of massive polar bears, the grace of elephants and the playfulness of the orangutan have drawn Monroe County parents and children to the zoo for many a memory-filled afternoon.

The zoo is open every day of the year from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., except for summer weekends and holidays, when closing is extended to 7 p.m. Admission is free Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to noon, with a \$1 adult fee and 50-cent children's fee on afternoons, weekends and holidays. Parking is free and guided tours are available by prior arrangement. Call the Seneca Zoological Society office at 342-2744 for more information on tours, and 266-6591 for general park information.

Seneca Park itself also features picnic areas, hiking trails, open fields and a public swimming pool. The spectacular views of the Genesee River are complemented by the good chance that visitors will encounter deer chipmunks, hawks, ducks and songbirds as they walk along the park's trails.

Location: Eastern bank of Genesee River in the northern portion of Rochester. Enter from St. Paul Street just north of Route 104.

A Monroe County Park of 297 acres.

SPEZIO PARK

Features two tennis courts and a playground.

Location: St. Paul Boulevard between Beach Terrace and Wabash Avenue.

A Town of Irondequoit Park of 0.33 acres.

SPRING LAKE PARK

Features two softball fields, playground, picnic area and fishing area.

Location: Corner of West Whitney Road and the Linden Avenue bridge.

A Town of Perinton Park of 59 acres.

STONEYBROOK ROAD PARK

Features tennis courts, pond, softball field, soccer field and ice skating rink.

Location: Stoneybrook Road in the Town of Rush.

A Town of Rush Park of 20 acres.

THE COMMON

Features picnic benches and flower gardens.

Location: The center of the hamlet of Rush.

A Town of Rush Park of 1 acre.

THORNELL FARM PARK

Features four softball fields, three multi-purpose fields, four lighted tennis courts, one lighted ball wall, ice skating rink, playground, hiking and jogging trails and sledding hill.

Location: 480 Pittsford-Mendon Road (Route 64) just south of Pittsford-Mendon High School.

A Town of Pittsford Park of 27 acres.

*"When the oak
is felled the
whole forest
echoes with its
fall, but a
hundred acorns
are sown in
silence by an
unnoticed
breeze."*

—Thomas Carlyle



SENECA PARK ON A SUNDAY

Created in 1894, Seneca Park was a favorite spot for Sunday strollers. The park was formed to preserve three miles of forested river gorge. Each spring, Rochester children of the 1920s performed the traditional dance around the park's Maypole.

*"I have never
found the
companion that
was as
companionable
as solitude."*

— Joseph Addison

TRYON PARK

Features hiking and scenic view of preserved Irondequoit Bay shoreline.

Location: western shore of Irondequoit Bay within the City of Rochester. Enter from Tryon Park Road.

A Monroe County Park of 82 acres.

TRYON PARK WEST

Features softball fields, tennis courts, and picnic areas.

Location: East side of the city. Enter from Winton Road or Edmonton Road.

A City of Rochester Park of 82 acres.

TURNING POINT PARK

At the "turning point" of the Genesee River, this park features a car-top boat launch, hiking trails and access to the Genesee River for fishing.

Location: West side of the city, off Lake Avenue, at the end of Boxart Street.

A City of Rochester Park of 100 acres.

UPPER FALLS TERRACE PARK

A scenic spot that includes the Pont de Rennes bridge that overlooks the Upper Falls of the Genesee River. Biking paths are also a feature.

Location: North of the inner loop on the west side of St. Paul Street.

A City of Rochester Park of 5 acres.

VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK

Features three softball fields, two soccer fields, two basketball courts, two tennis courts, cabin, shelter, picnic areas and grills.

Location: Calkins Road next to the Henrietta Town Hall.

A Town of Henrietta Park of 30 acres.

VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK

Features a picnic area and fishing access to Honeoye Creek.

Location: East Henrietta Road (Route 15A) in the hamlet of Rush.

A Town of Rush Park of 1 acre.

End the Day with Roasted Marshmallows

WEBSTER PARK

Located entirely within the Town of Webster, this park of rolling lakeshore meadows and woodlands includes several waterfront areas along Lake Ontario and a fishing pier. A popular overnight camping spot for youth and scout groups, Webster Park has five cabins that can accommodate 30 to 35

campers. Thirty-seven sites are available for use as family campgrounds. Five lodges and eight shelters, four tennis courts, picnic tables and grills, baseball and soccer fields, hiking and cross-country ski trails round out the park's features.

Location: Northeastern portion of the county on the shore of Lake Ontario, west of Route 250 in the Town of Webster. Enter from Lake Road or Holt Road.

A Monroe County Park of 550 acres.

WEGMAN ROAD PARK

Features four tennis courts, a shelter, playground and picnic grills.

Location: 550 Wegman Road

A Town of Gates Park of 2 acres.

WESTGATE RECREATION

Features two softball fields, four tennis courts, ice skating rink, shelter with tables, four picnic grills, playground, regulation bocce court and volleyball court.

Location: 1480 Howard Road behind Westgate Plaza.

A Town of Gates Park of 10 acres.

WETLAND AREA

This expanse of valuable wetland area south of Irondequoit Bay has been forever preserved as a county park. Visitors to the area enjoy hiking, canoeing, fishing, and the wildlife surprises offered by wetland.

Location: South of Irondequoit Bay. Enter from Empire Boulevard.

A Monroe County Park of 307 acres.

WILMORITE PARK

Features tennis court, ice skating rink, softball field and playground.

Location: Seneca Street in the Village of Webster.

A Village of Webster Park of 4 acres.

WINTON TOT LOT

Features a playground.

Location: Corner of Culver Road and Winton Road

A Town of Irondequoit Park of 0.33 acres.

YOLANDA PARK

Features a picnic area, playground and soccer field.

Location: End of Yolanda Drive, north of Chestnut Ridge Road.

A Town of Chili Park of 2 acres.



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